

Please replace the last paragraph beginning on page 13, line 404, and ending on page 14, line 418, with the following paragraph:

Depending on the strength of torsion spring 76, the torsion spring 76 may keep the step roller 18 in engagement with the inner rail 22 until the engagement of the free ends 80 with the riser 56 terminates in the second transition portion 84 and allows for a gradual changeover to the outer rail 24 in this area. Alternatively, the gravity load of the step 12 exceeds the force of torsion springs ~~56-76~~ in the course of moving through the turnaround portion 8 and allows for a smooth transition from the inner rail 22 to the outer rail 24 already in this area. During movement along the return path 5 the free ends 80 of torsion springs 76 are out of engagement with the step riser 58 so that the gravity load of the step 10 ensures engagement of the step roller 18 with the outer rail 24 in this portion. In a similar way such engagement and disengagement of the free end 80 of torsion spring 76 with step riser 58 occurs in the lower turnaround portion whereupon the second free end 80 of torsion spring 76 is again disengaged from the step riser 58 in the inclined or people conveyor portion 6. The operation is reversed if the transport direction of the people conveyor is reversed.